SEPRET Department of State

INCOMING

PAGE 81 OF 82 188859Z ACTION INR-18

1888557

EUROPEAN BRIEF FOR 17 DEC 88.

POLAND SITUATION REPORT.

THE POLISH REGIME GAINED ANOTHER BREATHING SPELL AS THE LE DEMONSTRATION IN GOANSK PASSED WITHOUT UNTOWARD INCIDENTS, AND SOLIDARITY LEADER WALESA APPEALED FOR CALM AND NATIONAL RECONCIL TION.

POPE JOHN PAUL II ALSO SENT A TELEGRAM, BROADCAST BY THE REGIME, ASKING FOR CALM AND UNITY. THE REGIME'S SPOKESMAN, GDANSK PARTY LEADER FISZBACH, EMPHASIZED THAT THE PARTY WILL CONTINUE EFFORTS TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH THE UNION AND TO RENEW THE PARTY.

ALTHOUGH THE USSR WAS NOT MENTIONED DIRECTLY. AN UNDERLYING THEME OF THE SPEAKERS WAS THAT POLAND MUST NOT GIVE THE SOVIETS A JUSTIFICATION FOR INTERVENING. WALESA QUOTED FROM THE STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE POLISH EPISCOPATE LAST FRIDAY THAT POLES HUST NOT ACT IN SUCH A MAY THAT EXPOSES THE COUNTRY TO TOURGERS' OR THREATEND "LIBERTY AND STATEHOOD." FISZBACH SAID THAT POLES MUST OPPOSE ANYTHING THAT MAY "THREATEN THE INTERESTS OF THE NATION AND STATE. "

THE REGIME, APPARENTLY HEARTENED BY VALESA'S CON-CILIATORY REMARKS, BROADCAST THEM ON THE RADIO AND RE-PORTEDLY TELEVISED THEM TO THE NATION. THIS WAS THE FIRST TIME THAT A SPEECH BY WALESA WAS GIVEN NATIONAL COVERAGE.

SEVERAL OFFI-CIALS IN SOLIDARITY CRITICIZED VALESA FOR TAKING TOO SOFT A LINE TOWARD THE REGIME. WALESA, HOWEVER, SEEMS

TO BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND SUCH CRITICISM, AND HE PRESUMABLY WILL CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THAT SOLIDARITY MUST CONSOLI-DATE ITS GAINS, CONTINUE ITS EFFORTS TO ORGANIZE, AND AVOID REEDLESS CONFRONTATIONS.

THE REGIME MAY NOW HAVE SEVERAL MORE VEEKS OF QUIET, FOR AFTER THE COMMEMORATIVE CEREMONIES SCHEDULED FOR TO-DAY IN GDYNIA, SZCZECIN, AND SEVERAL OTHER CITIES MOST POLES WILL BE MAINLY INTERESTED IN FINISHING PREPARA-TIONS FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS. NEVERTHELESS, THE SO-VIETS ARE MAINTAINING A HIGH LEVEL OF CONCERN AND ARE CONTINUING MILITARY PREPARATIONS.

FCONOMIC PROBLEMS

INFO OCT-01 ACOA-12 EB-08 H-01 10-14 L-03 PER-01 PM-87 OES-89 SIL-81 SS-15 SY-85 AF-18 EUR-12 NEA-86 ARA-12 EA-18 AID-87 SP-82 /145 W -----110342 1310247 /17

R 188188Z DEC 88 FH CIA TO DEPT OF STATE USUN NEW YORK CINCEUR CINCSO AIR UNIVERSITY NAVY WAR COLLEGE TREASURY DEPT COMUSARHY FT MEADE ADVC TYNDALL AFB FLA COMDT COASTGUARD DIRNAVINVSERV WASHDO CGFMFLANT USICA WASHDC HQ TAC HQS DSA SAC CIA REP TEC BOERFINK MTK GE

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI FEMA WASHOC CINCUSAREUR BTH AF BARKSDALE AFB MPIC CINCUSAFE CLNCHSNAVEHR ISTH AF MARCH AFB COMLANTCOMEL INTCEN USDOCOSOUTH MAPLES I HO MAC SCOTT AFE IL COR ITAC 928MW FAIRCHILD AF8 DEPT OF LABOR DIRNSA USDOF FORRESTAL BLOG 21AD HANCOCK FLD NY 23AD DULUTH IAP MINN 24AD MALMSTROM AFB 25AD MCCHORD AFB

26AD LUKE AFB ARIZ USAFE COIC RAMSTEIN 12TIS BERGSTROM AFB

DEPT OF STATE FOR SECSTATE AID; USUN NEW YORK FOR POLAD; DIA FOR EUR; CINCEUR FOR POLAD; CINCSO FOR POLAD; AIR UNIVERSITY FOR STATE REP AND TED CHERRY; NAVY WAR COLLEGE FOR STATE DEPT REP; TREASURY DEPT ATTN MRS BECK DADS; COMUSARMY FT MEADE FOR SPECIAL RESEARCH DET; COMOT COASTGUARD FOR POLAD; HQ TAC FOR TACOPS/INOI; HQS DSA FOR CIS; BERGSTROM AFB TEX FOR 67TH TRY DO; NPIC FOR PB CABLES; CINCUSAFE FOR INOCH XPHN; HQ MAC SCOTT AFB IL FOR INZ; COR ITAC FOR GIPD, 24 COMP WING HOWARD AFE IN IN; BAF BARKSDALE AFE LA/INZE; ISAF MARCH AFB CA/INZE; 928MW FAIRCHILD AFB WA/IN, 12 TIS BERGSTROM AFB FOR INI

92 D 3 99, 59-94-0036

SECRET Department of State

PAGE 82 OF 82 188859Z

THE REGIME, HOWEVER, STILL FACES SERIOUS ECONOMIC PROBLEMS--NOTABLY FOOD AND COAL SHORTAGES--THAT REMAIN POTENTIAL CAUSES OF UNREST.

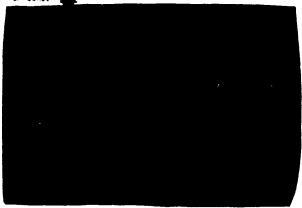
POLISH CENTRAL COMMITTEE SECRETARY STEFAN OLSZOWSKI

RECENTLY ANNOUNCED THAT SUPPLIES OF QUALITY MEAT, FISH, FRUITS, AND CONFECTIONARY ITEMS WILL BE IN SHORT SUPPLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON. SUPPLIES OF LOWER QUALITY ITEMS WILL BE SUBSTITUTED TO KEEP THE VOLUME OF FOOD AT LAST YEAR'S LEVEL. MANY STAPLE ITEMS AS WELL AS LUXURY GOODS WERE IN SHORT SUPPLY LAST WEEK.

TO ENSURE THE BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF HEAT SUPPLIES, THE REGIME RECENTLY INTRODUCED TEMPORARY HEAT RATIONING FOR THE HOLIDAYS IN SOME PROVINCES, INCLUDING WARSAW AND SZCZECIN. RATIONED HEAT IS SUPPOSED TO SUPPLY A LITTLE MORE THAN HALF THE POPULACE'S NORMAL CONSUMPTION—ALTHOUGH REPORTS OF SHORTAGES MAKE IT UNCERTAIN THAT EVEN THIS AMOUNT OF HEAT WILL BE AVAILABLE IN OFFICIAL STORES.

A LACK OF COAL HAS LED TO POWER DEFICITS THAT COULD INTENSIFY SINCE SOME POWER PLANTS ARE USING THEIR ALREADY-LOW RESERVE STOCKS. THE POWER CUTS HAVE HAD PARTICULARLY ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE PRODUCTION OF STEEL, AND THE

POLISH PRESS HAS REPORTED THAT CEMENT FACTORIES IN LUBLIN WILL HAVE TO SUSPEND WORK SOON BECAUSE OF THE SHORTAGE OF COAL.



EOT